

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the captioned application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (Canceled)

Claim 21. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for explosively severing a length of pipe, said apparatus comprising:

- (a) a tubular housing having an internal barrel space for receiving an axial column of explosive material between opposite distal ends;
- (b) first and second detonator socket housings disposed at said opposite distal ends for substantially simultaneously detonating said column of explosive material at said opposite ends;
- (c) resilient bias means for resiliently translating a first socket housing along said barrel space toward a second socket housing;
- (d) electrically connected detonators in said socket housings; and,
- (e) an electrically connected firing device electrically connected to said detonators, said second socket housing and corresponding electrically connected detonator being selectively removable from said housing for inserting said column of explosive material into said barrel space.

Claim 22. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as described by claim 21 wherein said axial column of explosive is unitized about a substantially central rod structure having a length greater than said axial column of explosive.

Claim 23. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as described by claim 21 wherein one distal end of said tubular housing is environmentally sealed by said second socket housing that is selectively removable from said tubular housing to load a column of explosive material into said internal barrel.

Claim 24. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as described by claim 23 wherein said second socket housing further includes an aperture for receiving a length of said central rod structure greater than a length of said axial column of explosive.

Claim 25. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as described by claim 21 wherein said first socket housing is resiliently biased by a spring along the length of said internal barrel to compressively confine said column of explosive material between said socket housings.

Claim 26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as described by claim 21 wherein said axial column of explosive material comprises a plurality of high explosive pellets aligned about said central rod.

Claims 27-33 (Canceled).